

LAZYBROOK NEWS

LAZYBROOK

SEPTEMBER 2011

President's Letter

Shane Davis, President (832) 659-4277 president@lazybrook.org

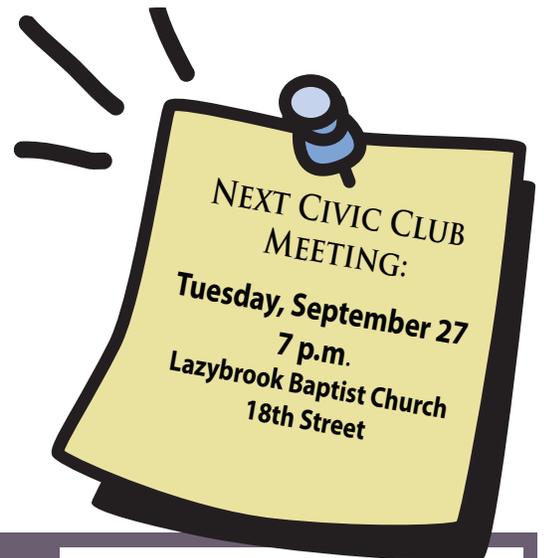
Dear Neighbors,

I hope this newsletter finds us in cooler nights and wetter days. The draught has been a stressor on our Beautification Chair Carolyn Lehnert and the Beautification Fund. Lazybrook committed to plant trees the last 3-4 years in our esplanades and Carolyn agreed to keep'em alive for all of us to enjoy. With the Executive Board's permission she has paid for watering the younger trees (and a few older small trees) throughout the draught and it seems to be working very well as we have lost only a few small trees. My THANKS for her efforts to keep an eye on our situation and make the difficult decisions to spend your money to pay for the extra watering as needed.

Lazybrook worked across the summer, meeting bi-weekly, and is now paired with 8 large and small surrounding neighborhoods to organize into a Super Neighborhood Council for the Lazybrook/Timbergrove Super Neighborhood. They meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Kojak's 6PM. Our volunteers on the Council are neighbors Joel Copeland and Jorge Sera. This council will bring the will of the people for city improvements to our section of Houston at the city's expense. Via the SN Council, we now have a STRONG voice at Houston City Council to receive funding on projects (such as irrigation, trail improvements, trash bins, park benches, overlays).

If you would like to run for the Executive Board, now is the time to give me a call 832 659 4277.

Shane Davis



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Newsletter printed by

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for the Lazybrook Civic Club and the
Friends and Neighbors of Lazybrook.

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YARD OF THE MONTH

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IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY: 911

HPD DISPATCH
(713) 884-3131

HPD CENTRAL STATION
(713) 247-4400

HEIGHTS STORE FRONT

Sgt. Chad Wall
(713) 803-1151
centralpatrol2district@cityofhouston.net

Visit us on the web at
<http://www.Lazybrook.org>
for up-to-the-date news,
events and more!

Membership

Janell Bryans, Membership Chair membership@lazybrook.org (713) 426-0148



Lazybrook Civic Club Membership Dues

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 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

I am enclosing:

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 _____ Donation: Security (Citizens on Patrol)

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Ad Volunteer Needed

Adina Akin

Advertising Chair Position Available

Are you interested in spending a little time to help support your neighborhood? I am no longer able to do this volunteer position and we are looking for a replacement to chair the position of Lazybrook Newsletter Advertisements. This position doesn't take very much time throughout the year but it truly has an impact in our neighborhood. The advertisements that are sold and posted in our bimonthly newsletter, and now on our website www.Lazybrook.org, help to pay for the cost of printing the newsletters that are distributed by our volunteer block captains. If you are interested, please contact our Lazybrook Civic Club President Shane Davis (president@lazybrook.org / 832-659-4277). Thank you.



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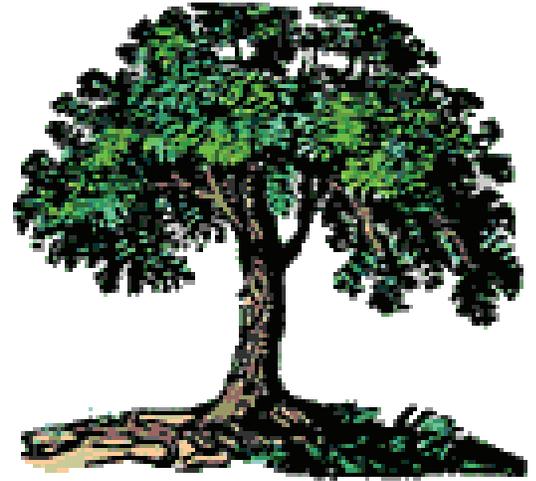
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TREE SALE

Native trees, 3 gallon size, available for Lazybrook residents
Large and small growing trees, such as oaks, pines,
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Very reasonable prices
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Sponsored by Lazybrook Civic Club
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beautification@lazybrook.org

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Around the Neighborhood

Julie Kleine, (832) 971-4731 jkleine@stewart.com

- **Jim and Joyce Simmons of Willowmoss Court**, Lazybrook residents since 1968, celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on September 6th. What a wonderful milestone! You are an inspiration to all couples.
- In an effort to clean up the 3 corners, intersections of TC Jester, Ella and West 18th, Ben Crabb and LCC President Shane Davis have successfully worked with the City of Houston (COH) and Papa Geno's restaurant regarding the overflowing trash bins. LCC President wrote a nice letter to Papa Geno thanking him for coming to our neighborhood as well as asking him to comply with the COH ordinance for the betterment of all who frequent the 3 Corners for business.
- Lazybrook Civic Club would like to thank the neighbors of **Helen Cirzewski**, who donated money to the Beautification and Security Committees in her name. Helen passed away February 27, 2011. She had lived in Lazybrook since 1975 with her husband Mitchell. The Lazybrook Civic Club is grateful for these donations and expresses our sympathy to Helen's daughter Hedwiga Weatherford for the loss of her mother.
- The neighbors on **1800 Crystal Court** were sad to lose two neighbors this summer; **Michael Dell Cannon** passed away in late April and there was a celebration of his life on May 14. Michael was born in Holdenville, Okla. Michael is survived by his wife Ruth and his daughter Dyan.
- **Edna Wehring** passed away on July 31, Edna was a native Houstonian and she and her husband Willie were one of the first families to move on Crystal Court. She is survived by her four children, Cindy, Gary, Linda and Debbie and their families. Edna would tell stories about how her children and all the many other children in the neighborhood all played together. She said those were great times. Michael and Edna are already missed by all the neighbors. They both were active in the Neighborhood Night Out activities and other activities in the neighborhood.
- Lazybrook neighbor, **Joel Copeland** participated in a golf tournament to benefit Home of Hope Texas on September 12, 2011 at Raveneaux Country Club in Spring, TX. Houston-based Granite Harbor Advisors sponsored this event. Home of Hope is a Houston-based 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is dedicated to rehabilitating victims of trafficking. Advocacy groups believe about 300,000 children are trafficked in the United States annually. Texas alone accounts for approximately 25 percent of that statistic. This benefit tournament helped to raise funds to support the first Houston-based rehabilitation center of its kind called Home of Hope Texas.

Have Announcements to share with your neighbors?

Please call or email Julie Kleine at jkleine@stewart.com or 832.971.4731



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Security

Matt Herring, Security Chair (713) 864-2823 security@lazybrook.org

Citizens on Patrol Hours Logged

June 2011 – 49.5
July 2011 – 68.5

I appreciate the continued support of our patrollers and welcome the new patrollers that have completed the training class. We are looking for more volunteers to join our Citizens on Patrol program to help do our part to protect ourselves and our neighbors. If you are interested please send an email to security@lazybrook.org to learn more.

Crime in the Neighborhood

7/18 – Theft, 2200 Lazybrook, 5pm
8/2 – Vandalism, 2200 Lazybrook late pm, broken window, bottle thrown through glass
8/24 – Suspicious vehicle noted in driveway 2400 Brooktree, vehicle plates were reported to HPD, truck was stolen from another location and later recovered.
8/25 – Theft from Vehicle, 2600 TC Jester, over night, GPS, glasses stolen
8/31 – Theft, 1800 Haverhill, wheels stolen from vehicle
Please call HPD to report all crimes and get a case number, this is how we are assigned manpower from HPD. HPD Dispatch 713-884-3131

Crime Statistics

The latest crime statistics are posted on the web at:
<http://mycity.houstontx.gov/crime/> or
www.spotcrime.com

Citizens on Patrol

Just a few minutes a week can really make a big difference in keeping Lazybrook safe. Patrolling is as easy as driving a car or riding a bike through the neighborhood with a cell phone and calling in any suspicious persons or activities. We will train you, the hours are flexible to fit any schedule, and you are reimbursed for the cost of gas. Please email lazybrook.security@gmail.com to let me know if you are interested.

Lazybrook Email Network

We have over 380 neighbors signed up to receive email updates. If you are not currently receiving the email you can join by emailing: security@lazybrook.org
If you change your email address please drop me a line so I can make the change and keep the list current.

August PIP Meeting

The August PIP meeting was held on August 24 and we were fortunate to have a guest speaker from Crime Stoppers. Crime Stoppers is a non-profit organization that gives cash rewards for tips that lead to the capture of criminals, aiding police officers in arrest and conviction of offenders.

They offer these crime prevention tips:

- Lock all doors and windows, including upstairs windows
- If you are just moving in, you should change your locks
- Ask for identification from delivery and service providers
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Get to know your neighbors
- Store valuable property in a safe or safety deposit box
- Report suspicious people and write down license plate numbers
- Stay alert when entering your home
- Report bad lighting or overgrown shrubbery to the city (311)
- Use initials on mailboxes or doorbells to avoid being an easy target

Since 1981 Crime Stoppers has been involved in the arrest of over 22,000 suspects with over \$9 Million in cash rewards given out. To report a tip to Crime Stoppers, call 713-222-TIPS or visit their website at www.crime-stoppers.org



Now's The Time For Change!

If you're thinking about selling your home, you'll want to carefully choose the real estate professional you work with. You should choose someone who specializes in residential real estate and has specific knowledge of the area. You should choose me ... as a resident of Lazybrook, I have a vested interest in keeping the values of the neighborhoods as high as possible. *So, when you're ready to sell, give me a call. Your profit is my priority!*



JANELL BRYANS
MBA, GRI

Your Lazybrook Neighbor.

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Jaycee Park Update

Ileana Desalos, Contributor friendsofjayceepark@yahoo.com

A trail is coming to Jaycee Park!

The Kinder Foundation has just selected Jaycee Park to receive a \$100,000 donation specifically for building a new trail! Thank you to the Houston Parks Board for presenting our park to this foundation. We will update you as we have more information.

Very generous community organization donation!

Rotary Club generously sponsored a table with a \$5000 donation to the park! "Rotary is a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.



There are 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. As signified by the motto Service Above Self, Rotary's main objective is service — in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world." Here is the link to the Heights Rotary Club if you are interested in joining this club: <http://www.clubrunner.ca/Portal/Home.aspx?cid=3935>

If you could spare a few moments to send a quick thank you to these organization (via email or regular mail), I'm certain it would be greatly appreciated.

Kinder Foundation	Houston Parks Board
Nancy Kinder	300 N. Post Oak Ln.
PO Box 130776	Houston, Tx 77024
Houston, TX 77219	

Email to both organizations can be sent through: deborah@houstonparksboard.org

Heights Rotary Club
Clint Horne: clintmaryalice@kw.com
Wade Bradford: gcp3c@comcast.net

We are very grateful for both of these very generous donations to improving our park and our area especially considering the current tough economic environment.

Trees at the park

The old, established trees in the park are taking a really big hit with the drought. Many of them have either turned completely brown or are in the process of turning brown. Ben has been working over time (for free) to help keep some of the key trees from dying. The head of Urban Forestry at the City said that just because they are brown does not mean they are definitely dead. We will know more next spring when we see which ones come back. Please pray for some much needed rain for these and all the city's trees.

Contact Ileana Desalos at 713-922-6742 or friendsofjayceepark@yahoo.com. You can also see more information at the Houston Parks Board website under 'Projects' where you can find Jaycee Park www.houstonparksboard.org.

Real Estate Corner

Brenda Brummett (713) 861-1710



As of August 31, 2011 there were 4 active listings, 2 in option pending stage, 1 pending continue to show and 1 pending listing in Lazybrook.

Of the 4 active listings prices range from \$219,000 to \$375,000 with an average square footage of 1,869 and an average per square foot asking price of \$168.26. The most expensive is a 3/2 with 1,951 square feet. The least expensive is a 3/2 with 1,411 square feet built in 1960. The lowest per square foot asking price is \$139.24 and the highest is \$202.87. The homes have been on the market between 7 and 93 days as of August 31. One home has a pool and two have sprinkler systems.

The two Option Pending listings are listed at \$316,200 & \$319,900.

The Pending Continue to Show is at \$429,900. It is a 3/2.5 with 2,083 and was on the market only 1 day.

The Pending listing is a 3/2.5 built in 1958 with 2,026 square feet.

Lazybrook had eight closings between July 6 and August 31, 2011. The sales prices ranged from \$256,000 to \$610,000. Again these were clean sales – only one property had seller assist for closing costs at \$3,000 and the same property had a \$700 repair allowance. Each of these houses had been updated; two have pools and six of the eight have sprinkler systems.

Average time on the market 124.63 days (Minimum 1 day, Maximum 421)

Average Asking Price: \$367,388 Average Per Square Foot Asking: \$168.35

Average Sales Price: \$351,688 Average Per Square Foot Sales Price: \$161.18*

Average Square Feet: 2,182 3 bedrooms, 2.63 baths

*without adjustment for seller contribution to closing costs and/or repair allowance.

Information as reflected on the Houston Association of Realtors website.

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Yard of the Month

Jim Gorab, Yard of the Month Chair yard@lazybrook.org (713)636-2530

August 2011



Fritzy Dean of 8319 W. T.C. Jester and her husband, Russell Sullivan, moved into their Lazybrook home in 2001. Fritzy was no stranger to the area - she owned an antiques business on 19th Street for 25 years.

After moving in, Fritzy and Russell cut down a large tree in the front yard that was dying and left the stump, thinking that they would be able to landscape around it. Eventually they removed the stump and established a garden island in the yard with flowering shrubs.

Sadly, Russell, a U.S. Navy engineer, passed away in 2007. Fritzy says that Russell always hoped their yard would be recognized as a Lazybrook yard of the month.

It's a Sign written by Fritzy dean

I wish I could find the picture we took of this house when we first moved in. That was in October of 2001. If I had that picture I could show you how minimal, even desolate, the yard looked back then.

Up close to the front wall was a row of boxwood shrubs. They were unkempt, looking as if they had not been trimmed in a long time. That was it for landscaping. The grass was patchy with brown spot. On the left hand side of the front yard was a really tall, really ugly tree. My husband realized the tree needed attention. It looked diseased.

The tree people were called. Money was spent. Lots of money. The tree was still ugly and still diseased. But because we had spent all that money, Russell was reluctant to give up on it. So it hung on. In fact, we used it as a landmark for people coming to visit us for the first time. After giving them directions, we told them to look for the ugliest tree in the neighborhood. I secretly thought it was the ugliest tree in Houston.

On the right hand side of the yard, in contrast to the giant ugly tree, was a dear little baby tree that Russell had transplanted from our old yard. A bird or squirrel had planted it there and he rescued it from the mower. It was a tiny seedling, maybe 4 inches high, when he moved it to this yard. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 14**



Cayce and Glenn Hatcher's home at 2106 Seamist is the yard of the month for September. Their neighbor, Vennie Wolf, nominated them saying that their yard is always "top notch" and noting the beautiful beds of color at all times. (No easy task in this heat and drought!)

Indeed, the Hatchers yard features lush ground cover accented by vinca in a variety of hues. Terraced stonework and a pair of trees frame the front walk and a beautiful custom wood gate accents the drive.

If you would like to nominate a yard for "Yard of the Month," send your nomination to me at yard@lazybrook.org or telephone your nomination to Jim Gorab at (713)636-2530. Thank you to all who have submitted nominations.

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Stay Fit: The Choice is Yours

Birgitt Haderlein, tofityou@sbcglobal.net 713-410-3376

This has been the hottest summer ever! Having said that I have been impressed with all of the Lazybrook residents who in spite of the heat found ways to keep their exercise program going. I may not know all of you by name but I am out a lot and can pick you out if we were to play name that exerciser. Last month I shared with you my first strengthening and walk class I did for the neighborhood. What a great time it was. I am gearing up for the next class (fall session) starting September 14 and looking forward to meeting all of my participants. (The spring session begins February 8, 2012.)

I have been in the fitness industry over 25 years and still the main question I get asked is how can I lose this weight that suddenly crept on?

I have learned to let the client continue to talk because at some point in our conversation they always find the best answer to their own question. Although you do have all our own answers you still need the support and accountability to get fit. Sure you have obstacles that get in the way - your schedule, your job, your kids, the weather, the knee injury from college...but ultimately you have the body that you accept.

I'm going to REPEAT that so it will really sink in. You have the body that you accept. You may not realize it but you already possess everything you need to transform your body,



and it all starts by taking the responsibility for the body that you have today.

You are in the current shape you are in because until this moment you have been OK with it.

Oh I know you are not thrilled with it and you have even talked about losing weight and getting fit- but you haven't changed what you accept.

Here's how to transform your body in three steps:

Step one: Feel Disturbed

It has been said that emotion creates motion. This is essential when it comes to personal transformation. So to transform your body you must first decide that you can't live another day in the body you currently have.

Get your emotions stirred up. Make a list of all the reasons your ready to lose weight and get fit. Get disturbed.

Step Two: Decide What You Want

Without clarity you will never get where you want to go. Now that you are disturbed with the body that you have, decide what the body that you have will look like.

Think in concrete and specific terms. You may want to take before and after pictures - this will help you have a vision of what changes you want to make.

When you get a clear picture in your mind of what you'll look like in your "after" picture decide what the caption will read. "I lost 4 inches of my waist".

Step Three: Take Action

The time spent between inspiration (now) and taking action

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determines whether you will succeed or fail. Don't allow yourself to get stuck in analysis paralysis - there is always something that you can do immediately.

Take action now by emailing me or calling me to set up a fitness consultation to be the best you, you can be.

The healthier and happier life you wanted is closer than you think. I am here to get you there.

Get Disturbed!

You have to get disturbed with your current shape in order to take the action you need to transform your body. How do you get disturbed? Try these:

- Go shopping for a swimsuit
- Try on all of your "skinny clothes"
- Look at old pictures of when you were in better shape
- Go to the doctor for a physical.

I will leave you with this final thought. When you finally accept that you can do anything you want in your life you will et the life you want.

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Matt Ripley, MCP, CNE
Your Lazybrook Neighbor and Specialist



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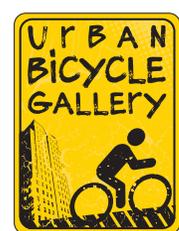
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*New clients only with regular repeat schedule. Cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. Offer expires 9-30-11.

It's a Sign continued....

Russell also planted knockout roses in the vacant planter in front of the dining room window. He was always the gardener. He had a lovely rose garden at our Heights house. He was planning one here, too.

But before he got around to fulfilling his plans he got sick. His plans were put on hold until he felt better. After a couple of years he decided to have the yard professionally landscaped. A nice yard was important to him—and so, to me as well.

The landscaper made proposals. We amended them. This back and forth took awhile. The ONE point on which we would not waver was the baby tree. It stayed. He would work around it, or we would find another guy. Finally, it was decided that an “island bed” around the tree would look nice and set off that side of the yard.

It took only a few hours to rip out the old boxwoods. It took an entire day to put in the new plants. And, of course, lots of money. Now all we had to do was water—and wait. Water every evening and wait for Mother Nature to take over and make the new plantings flourish.

Flourish they did. Little by little the plants filled out and filled in. Once again we had a “nice” yard. By that time, Russell had noticed that the civic association awarded a “Yard of the Month” sign to homeowners to recognize “nice” yards.

He decided by some kind of magical thinking that OUR yard would be next. He was sure of it! Every time we left the house for any reason, when we were driving back home, he would declare, “I bet the sign is there when we get home.” Even if I pointed out that the signs were planted on the first of the month and it was now, say the 17th, he was SURE. That sign would be HIS!

Month after month with without the sign did not seem to discourage him. He was always optimistic. Russell passed away in January 2007, still expecting that damned sign to the very end.

In 2008 I finally had the ugly tree taken down, and just in time, accordingly to the tree guy. It was rotten to the core. One big wind and it would be in my bedroom. The big stump was there for another year or so, but finally I was able to have it ground up for mulch.

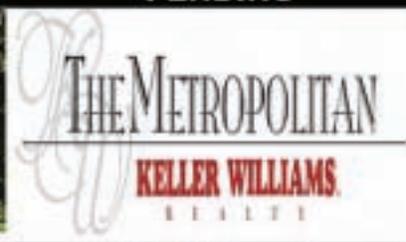
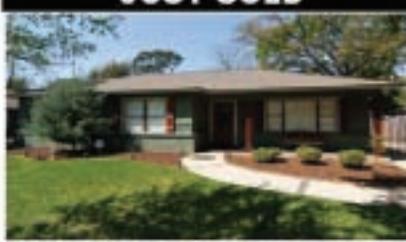
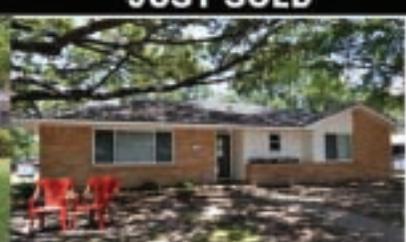
About two years ago I gave in and hired a yardman, a good one recommended by friends. Mario is knowledgeable and efficient. If we have a disagreement about how something should be done, Mario cheerfully does it his way. After all, as he pointed out, that's why I pay him.

Under Mario's weekly care, the yard looks good---even during the extreme drought and heat conditions. He put in heat tolerant flowers a few months ago. Now they are blooming their happy little hearts out.

And guess what else is blooming in the front yard? Yep, it's the sign. Look at the base of the tree. That tree, by the way, is the 4-inch seedling that Russell planted in 2001. It is at least 40 feet tall now and growing taller every year. It's a tribute to Russell's green thumb.

And, Russell, this is for you.

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JUST LISTED	JUST LISTED	PENDING
		
4019 Oak Ridge St 2/1 299,000	1224 Overhill St 4/3.5/2 \$452,900	1826 Watercrest 3/2/2
JUST SOLD	JUST SOLD	JUST SOLD
		
923 Nashua	2118 Stacy Glen	5223 Roslyn Ct
JUST SOLD	JUST SOLD	JUST SOLD
		
1217 Althea	1642 Richelieu Ln	5410 Manor Creek



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THE METROPOLITAN

KELLER WILLIAMS
REALTY

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Please note: = Heavy Tree Waste 				1 	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8 	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 North 	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 	23	24
25	26 South 	27 Civic Club Meeting 7pm	28	29 	30 No 5th Friday Social	

OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3	4	5	6 	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 North 	21	22
23	24 South 	25	26	27 	28	29
30	31 Halloween				Please note: = Heavy Trash - Junk 	

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Please note: = Heavy Tree Waste 		1	2	3 	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 North 	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25 	26
27	28 South 	29	30			